

Dianne E. Ray, CPA State Auditor

## CONFIDENTIAL

VIA HAND DELIVERY

May 16, 2019

The Honorable Nathan B. Coats, Chief Justice Colorado Supreme Court 2 East 14th Avenue Denver CO 80203

Dear Chief Justice Coats:

The Office of the State Auditor (OSA) received an anonymous report to its Fraud Hotline concerning individuals and activities at the State Court Administrator's Office. We have conducted an initial screening of the report and determined that certain aspects of the report constitute allegations of occupational fraud (i.e., misappropriation of assets) that fall within the scope and jurisdiction of the Hotline.

Therefore, as required by Section 2-3-110.5(3)(b), C.R.S., we are referring this Hotline report to the Judicial Department, which has the responsibility for determining and taking appropriate action on the referred allegation. Due the nature of the complaint and the named individuals involved, we determined it was appropriate to address this referral directly to your attention. We have attached the workpapers related to the OSA's intake and screening of the Hotline report.

As the affected state agency, the Judicial Department may:

- Conduct an investigation internally with no involvement by the OSA.
- Conduct an investigation internally, but request the assistance of the OSA.
- Request that the OSA conduct an investigation.

Please contact me or Greg Fugate (greg.fugate@state.co.us, 303.869.2839) with any questions you have related to this Hotline referral, or if the Judicial Department is requesting that the



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OSA either conduct or assist with an investigation of this referred allegation. This referral has been assigned Ticket #20180081 for tracking purposes.

Section 2-3-110.5(4), C.R.S., requires the Judicial Department to report to the OSA by August 14, 2019 (i.e., within 90 days) on the disposition of this referral, including actions taken to respond to the fraud allegation and the results of any subsequent investigation. If a disposition has not been reached within 90 days, the Judicial Department must report to the OSA by August 8, 2019 on the status of the referral and then every 90 days thereafter until a disposition is reached. This disposition reporting requirement does not apply if the Judicial Department requests that the OSA conduct or assist with an investigation of the referred allegation.

Thank you for your assistance as we work together to fight occupational fraud and improve Colorado state government.

Sincerely,

Dianne E. Ray, CPA

State Auditor 303.869.2801

dianne.ray@state.co.us

Attachment: Intake and Screening Report – Ticket #20190081

## Mr. Governor and Chief Justice.

The moral of the employees at the State Court Administrator's Office is horrible as everyone is living in fear. Chris Ryan and senior staff have destroyed what used to be a positive environment. Nobody trusts anything they say as it has been a series of lies and deception. They all went to Virginia last year for a rowing class that cost thousands of dollars. This was a huge waste of money that did nothing for the good of the office. They have also had two women teach hundreds of judicial employees management skills for millions of dollars. They have also spent millions of dollars on consultants for ITS. This has caused everyone in ITS to believe they will be fired because the consultant doesn't like them. Management of the office believes it's ok to have retreats and meetings at resorts in the mountains. Most employees can't even afford to go these places.

Besides wasting money, Chris Ryan has continued to pay senior staff who are not working. Jane Hood, Mindy Masias and David Kribs are all still being paid but have not worked in months. Jane Hood disappeared one day because she was watching Mindy Masias and Eric Brown. She has been paid for months to not disclose what she had. Mindy Masias committed fraud and threatened to sue Chris Ryan, so she was put on FMLA. Chris Ryan, Eric Brown and Mindy Masias are part of a cover up of FMLA fraud. David Kribs was not showing up for work and is still being paid. Mindy Masias and Eric Brown travel together and speak at conferences for the National Center of State Courts. They earn consulting and speaking fees as judicial employees on state time. Eric doesn't use a state computer so there is no way to see how much consulting work he does during the day. They both speak on ethics and management eventhough they are covering up fraud. Mindy and Eric spoke at the NACM conference in Arkansas while Mindy was still on FMLA or 2 days after it was done.

There is so much more to write and so many more details, but everyone is terrified and sick of the corruption and coverups. Some simple questions and open records requests will make people answer questions about the management of the judicial department and bring about changes.